1946. I File No. 484-I

CONFIDENTIAL

Reconstruction DEPARTMENT

C BRANCH

Subject:— Bunding

Bijapur District.

Memorial to H.E. the Governor containg complain against — System in,

Sec.

MYSORE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
29 JUN 1957
PUBLIC WORKS BRANCH

RS

MYSORE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
NO. 1416/SP
1 JUL 1957
PUBLIC WORKS BRANCH

B class
— Karnatak

Supdt; G.I.Br.

MYSORE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
NO. 5087/G.S.
5 JUL 1957
PUBLIC WORKS, GENERAL IRRIGATION BRANCH

270
E

484-C- Confl:- I

File No.

Std. Sectt. Slip 24-B

G. R., G. D., No. 208, dated 22-6-22.]

Std. Sectt. 78 a.

CONFIDENTIAL

DOCKET SHEET

Subject :—

File No. 484

Reconstruction **DEPT.**

C **BRANCH.**

References :—

Date.	To whom sent.	Notes and instructions.
29/10/41	CE	Reminder after a week say 5/11/41
	CE	Reminder on 16/1/46
17/1/46	CE	Reminder on 1/2/46
6/2/46	CE	Action taken

SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR BOMBAY

Confidential.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
GANESHKHIND.

16th October 1945

Dear Collins,

I attach (in original) a memorial submitted to His Excellency at the time of his visit to Bijapur, containing complaints against the Bunding system.

2. His Excellency was informed by Ambula that the sentiments expressed against bunding were really due more to a certain resentment caused by Kusman's brusqueness in dealing with critics.

3. Sir S. Collins think that this complaint is worth investigation, and prima facie is inclined to think that it might best be dealt with on the following lines:-

(a) Payment of compensation to persons whose lands were damaged at the villages of Tulwad and Managoli;

(b) possibly encouraging Kusman to spend more of his time in Bijapur and Bhagwan Districts than at Belgaum; if not to move his headquarters there; and

(c) Verbal warning to Kusman from A(R) that he should exercise more tact.

The above views are however only tentative and H.E. would like the matter to be examined before any orders are issued.

Yours sincerely

Sir Geoffrey Collins, KCIE.,CSI.,CBE.,ICS.,
Council Hall,
POONA.

To

His Excellency The Right Hon'ble

Sir David John Colville,

G. C. I. E., T. D.,

Governor of Bombay.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, on behalf of the thousand -s of agriculturists of this District, are grateful to Your Excellency for granting us an opportunity of putting forth our grievances regarding the present mass Bunding on contour lines that is being carried on in our District. We fervently hope that after hearing our grievances, Your Excellency will redress them.

We submit that we are not opposed to the bunding of lands. As agriculturists we know that conservation of moisture & prevention of soil erosion can be done by bunding. But the present method of bunding has innumerable defects as we see practically every day. The student of agriculture knows today many methods of -- bunding such as broad-base bunding, field bunding with waste-weirs and block bunding with waste-weirs. All these methods have been tried in our District satisfactorily.

The present method of contour bunding has many defects. A few are enumerated below :-

(1) In black soil these bunds have horribly breached. In murum or poor soil these costly bunds may not breach as in black soil. But the out-turn is -- meagre looking to the cost of bunding.

(2) One breach in the bund on the top level will --

force all the bunds down below to give way resulting in heavy loss of soil which cannot be made good.

(3) By constructing the bunds according to the present - method (so-called contour) nearly 1/5 of the total area is rendered unfit for cultivation.

(4) All agricultural operations will have to be carried out with great difficulty on account of these zig-zag bunds. To suit his convenience, an agriculturist will have to carry on cultivation in straight line, thus leaving the space between several curves uncultivable or fallow.

(5) These bunds and the uncultivable pockets of land will give rise to rapid spread of weeds, shrubs etc., which will be a permanent nuisance in several ways to an agriculturist.

(6) These numerous zig-zag bunds will be great obstacles for an agriculturist to take his cattle, carts, and agricultural impliments from one field to another and from one plot to the other.

(7) An ordinary agriculturist will not be in a position to pay this high cost of bunding and to maintain them - forever and to sustain increased cost in cultivation. The cost of bunding has been arbitrarily fixed without taking into consideration the nature of the soil and the number of bunds in each land.

(8) The old boundary marks, rights of easements of way and water are ignored. So disputes about these -- rights are sure to arise.

(9) There is no guarantee of an increase in the --- productive capacity of the land. But the liability for costs of bunding, costs of maintenance and -

increase in the cost of cultivation is certain.

(10) Owing to the absence of any waste-weirs for exit of excess water in these bunds, there will be either -- breaches in the bunds or stagnation of water with its consequent injurious results.

(11) The bunds are constructed in & out of season. Standing crops are mercilessly cut and trampled down by the -- coolies. This is not only a distinct loss to a ryot but is contrary to the principle of " Grow More Food Campaign". Cultivators are prevented from carrying on their timely operations such as harrowing, sowing and inter-culture etc.,

(12) Most of the valuable surface soil is taken out for - constructing these numerous bunds. Thus the soil --- exposed takes about three years to weather to fertility.

(13) The experience of the last two years has been that the present system of bunding has not been proved to be of any benefit to the soil or ryot, but has been a source of loss and a burden to him. We notice that there have been numerous breaches in these bunds and the bunds are repaired, shifted and re-shifted to other places, which entails heavy and fresh expenditure. It is therefore apparent from this that the present system is utterly faulty.

(14) Several applications were sent to the Land Improvement Officer from the people of various villages, complaining against the method of bunding. Personal representations were made by some of us but to no purpose. Some of us made representations to the Collector, Revenue Commissioner, Your Excellency's Advisor and other -- Officers. But they were referred back to the Land

Improvement Officer . The Land Improvement Officer never paid any attention to our grievances but gave a reply saying that it was a technical matter taken up by the Govt. as a matter of experiment at Govt. cost and that no useful purpose will be served by calling a meeting or by having any personal discussion. -- Though the public approached the Land Improvement Officer for redressing their grievances his replies to them were curt. Threats of force and prosecution etc., have been used to carry on the work against the will of the ryots misinterpretting the provisions of the Act.

(15) We learn that the Land Improvement Officer is --- representing that his work of bunding is successful; but it is not a fact. It is a mere propaganda. He is carrying on a propaganda of the sort.

(16) In our humble opinion, the present system of bunding if allowed to continue, will surely ruin the agriculturists in various ways. We humbly submit to Your Excellency that the present system of bunding is a waste of public and Govt. money instead of being a measure to help the agriculturists by improving agriculture as intended by the Govt.

(17) So we humbly pray Your Excellency to order the stopping of bunding works immediately and a ---- Committee consisting of the following be appointed to examine thoroughly the working of the present system of bunding in all aspects i.e., practical, economical and beneficial and to explore some -- other scheme which will be beneficial in all its aspects to the soil and the agriculturists of this district.

(A) Experienced Officers of the Agricultural Department in the grade of Deputy Directors.

(B) Experienced Engineers and Soil Experts.

(C) Experienced local agriculturists who cultivate personally more than 100 acres of land.

We finally crave indulgence of Your Excellency to pay a visit to Mulwad or Managoli which are at a distance of about 15 miles from here, where bunding, repairing of bunds, shifting and re-shifting of bunds, cutting of standing crops is in full swing.

We pray the Almighty for Your Excellency's long life and continued prosperity.

Bijapur,
12th October 1945.

We beg to remain,
Your Excellency's most humble subjects,

R. B. Nisani.

Copy

Confidential.

Office of the Adviser (R. & T.W.),
Council Hall, Poona.
17th October 1945.

My dear Sothers,

I had discussed this matter with His Excellency before the attached papers were received. I think the best course will be for you to see them first and let me have your remarks.

As to para. 3 (a) of Symington's letter, I take it it could be more a question of Government repairing the damage at its own cost than a question of any compensation to be paid to villagers. I am also not sure whether there is not some confusion in the names of the villages. I mentioned to His Excellency that, when I discussed bunding with Terry at Mangola Camp some months ago he informed me that certain bunds which were constructed near the railway lines at a very early stage and probably before Germans took over had fallen down and we agreed that they ought to be repaired as soon as possible, so as not to damage the prestige of bunding. I am not sure whether these are in all the villages of Pulwad and Manugoli, and whether there is not some confusion. The complaint about Pulwad and Manugoli seems to be that standing crops are being damaged.

Para 3 of the letter: As to the various defects mentioned in the representation, we went carefully into (3),(4),(5) and (6) when the work was started. We agreed that they were difficulties of course, but decided that they must be faced having regard to the supreme advantage of bunding.

As to (8) I believe that in America, weeds are now regarded as advantageous as being retentive of moisture and even providing manure.

(7) Is surely not justified.

(9) Could be immediately contradicted if necessary.

(11) It might be necessary to look into this.

(13) I have not heard about this.

(1) Delta.

The other points could be easily explained.

I had hoped to have a tour in the Southern Division before the end of this month and to visit Bijapur when I could go into these matters and give any personal directions necessary to Lawson. I am afraid now that other engagements will make this impossible. I do not know if you will be going that way soon and whether this is not necessary in any case.

When you have made your remarks, I think you and I had better settle the best course of action as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

F. H. Collins

F.H.Collins, Esq., C.I.E.,
Chief Secretary to Government (Revenue),
Bombay.

(a) PRELIMINARY

The old rich man's bunding in the low lands by which he acquired silt and moisture from the poor man - when he was lucky. Costings sometimes run up to 40 to 50 rupees per acre and they breached. We have a good picture of Rs.6,000/- worth of bund and waste-weir completely gone.

(1) Denied. No large scale breaching in Land Improvement, North Circle. In Land Improvement, South Circle under exceptional conditions, 2500 acres breached last year. Less than 1 % of the total area under bunds, or - perhaps of area under black soil bunds 1.5%. Cost of repairs less than Rs.2/- per acre. Loss of fertile soil very small and the areas were subsequently rabi cropped.

(2) Denied in part. One breach usually leads to a second but quite frequently when conditions are fair, i.e. when the slope flattens out and large easy graded fields are reached, the flood is ~~averted~~ arrested. When this occurs there is soil movement but little total soil loss.

(3) An Exaggeration. Taking the total of bund base, berm and borrow pit we have about 32 ft. or 1/7th of average spacing and 1/10th of the optimum spacing. In addition the berm is usually cultivated and we expect the borrow pit to return to cultivation after a period. Finally, we recommend tree planting at the foot of the bund and have no objection to castor on the bund itself where it does well.

(4) There is a good deal in this especially when the country is difficult. We allow ourselves 12" deviation in depression and 6" on lifts as limits to our attempts to flatten out curves, but even this leads to wash currents parallel to

p.t.o.

the bunds which are many times more dangerous than direct pressure.

(5) A grass, or grass and weed fallow helps preserve moisture and to renew the organic matter or humus content of the soil, but no one could recommend a permanent weed fallow. As I have said to my mind for the permanent benefit of the country and the cultivation, the toe of the bund and any definitely uncultivable pockets should go to tree growth.

(6) We cannot provide tracks every where, but we allow for village roads in all places while in the fields, we provide for reasonably established tracks by ramping the bunds upto cart track width.

(7) At present crop prices, the burden of 12 annas a year for 12 years should be very small. On the better lands the increase of yield caused Berry to state, after touring Bijapur last rabi season, that there was no reason for instalments at all and that an immediate repayment would have been no hardship. As regards marginal lands, I personally expected that some holders of these might resign their claims — possibly asking for a small compensation — rather than pay for the bunding. I have questioned many of these owners and not one has any idea of resigning. All stated that they were quite willing to pay in the expectation of being able to crop in good seasons and of getting better grazing. The better lands gain in their protection from floods from above and from erosion. Although richer in outturn they usually contain less running foot of bund

to the acre. Why should they pay less ?

(8) Boundary marks are ignored and must be so unless the contour principle is dropped. Many of us hope that this fact will lead to a more economic adjustment of holdings in the future. For easements of way see (6). I do not understand easements of water unless it refers to canal irrigated land and here the problems are so difficult that I feel we are better out of them in all future projects.

(9) We maintain that a fixed soil with a better moisture content must lead to premanent increase of yield over non-bunded areas of similar type.

(10) We maintain that in these 20" rain areas, there is no excess of water though there may be a small temporary accumulation above ground before absorp--tion. Well consolidated bunds, we believe, will hold any rainfall likely to occur.

(11) I do not believe this is a normal happening though isolated instances may occur. The point came up last year and under Adviser F (Sir Henry Knight's) instructions a firm order was issued to the staff that we must keep off any field between sowing and harvest unless the cultivator himself asks that the work should go on. I have been so asked at Jamkhed and I think at Mohol.

(12) See (3) as to the percentage affected. The borrow pit area will no doubt take 3 years or more to return to fertility.

Actually we saw in Bijapur many pits already being cultivated after one or two years

(13) See (1) as to extent of breaching in Bijapur. No heavy breaching was experienced in Land Improve--ment, North Section. See para (1) as to cost of breach repairs in Bijapur. In Sholapur cost of first year repairs was less than 1 anna per acre. In any case these first year repair costs fall on Government and not on the cultivator.

p.t.o.

(14) I will ask Mousman to report on this.

(15) We are indeed carrying out propaganda to the limit our staff and funds permit.

(16) We deny this.

(17) Government should receive shortly Dr.Shubart's report but I believe his opinion so far to be favourable. In addition, these areas have been inspected by two Inspector Generals of Forests, Sir H. Howard and Mr.A. Hamilton. Both of them were enthusiastic. Favourable reports have also been given by other technical officers, such as (1) Dr.Gorrie, Chief Conservator of Forests, Punjab, (2) Mr.Cliff, Special Officer, Grow More Food Campaign, Bihar, (3) Dr.V.G.Vaidya, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Central Provinces, and (4) Dr.K.N. Nagarkatti, I.C.S., Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Central Provinces and Berar and (5) Mr.Low, Additional Director of Agriculture (War Production), United Provinces. Several visitors among others like the Hon'ble the Resident of Deccan States, Kolhapur, the Rajas of Sangli and Jath have also shown their keen interest in this work.

Confidential.

Office of the Adviser (Revenue),
Council Hall, Poona.
22nd October 1945.

My dear Symington,

With reference to the attached papers, could you please see my letter to Sothers and the note which he has given me? I have explained to him that the three points mentioned in your letter are the important ones, and we need not concern ourselves to the same extent with the other detailed points raised in the representation.

In discussion we have agreed that he and I should go to Bijapur on the 31st and go into the matters on the spot. I could also at that time give a verbal warning to Sausman.

The other two questions mentioned in your letter could be answered on my return from Bijapur.

I would be grateful if you could let me know by tomorrow whether His Excellency agrees to this course, as I [redacted] have to make early arrangements for the visit to Bijapur.

Please return the attached papers.

Yours sincerely,

P. H. Colvin

D. Symington, Esq., CIE., ICS.,
Secretary to the Governor,
Ganeshkhind.

P.T.O.

A(G) 22/

Write D of A. see these
papers.[2] If he suggests
a time, we could discuss
it the next day or two.

24/10/45 fe

D of Apic. (by name)

Discussed when Dir.
gave his views & suggestions.

fe

Office of the Adviser (Revenue & T.D.
Council Hall, Poona.
23rd October 1945.

My dear Sothers,

About our visit to Bijapur, I now find that Mulland will be in Satara on the 30th instant to 1st November only. As I should like to spend one day in Satara, would it suit you if our programme is modified as follows?

31st morning	--	Leave for Satara
31st evening	--	Visit Borgaon and Mardhane
1st Nov. 10 a.m.	--	Leave for Bijapur, seeing some bunding on the way. (I suggest 10 a.m., as this would leave a little time for discussion at Satara).
2nd Nov.	--	Bijapur
3rd Nov.	--	Return to Poona.

This depends on whether it would suit you to spend one night at Satara. Mulland and I would of course very much like to have you to show us round Borgaon. We could arrange accommodation for both of us at Sir D.B.Cooper's Guest House. If, however, you could not spare a day at Satara, I do not know whether it would be possible for you to get to Satara on the morning of the 1st November.

Could you let me know about this, if possible by 'phone today, so that Mulland and I can make immediate arrangements at Satara and Bijapur?

Yours sincerely,
S.P.Collins

Mr Sothers called personally.
This suits him.
24/10

D.B.Sothers, Esq., C.I.E.,
Land Improvement Officer (General),
Poona.

Class / Prefix } Code

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

426

Recd. from

By

Sent at H. M.

To

By

No.

Handed in at (Office of Origin) Poona Date 30 Hour 10.18 Service Instructions. Words 32

TO Adviser (Revenue) Poona

Recd. here at 9.14 H. M.

Your D.O. of 24th Stop arrangements made and members of Deputation informed as desired

Collector

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if unregistered, should be written after, but separated from, the text.

MGIP/Ah—

Bijapur
1/11/35

Sir,

We are highly thankful for giving us an interview on the 2nd at 3 P.M. We will be much obliged if you will give us an interview in the morning instead of in the ~~afternoon~~ evening if it suits you.

Thanking you

Yours obediently
M. Desai

To

Sir G.F.S.Collins,
K.C.S.I., C.I.E., O.B.E., M.A.(Oxon)
Adviser to the Governor of Bombay (Revenue).

Sir,

Highly thankful for the kind message. We learn that only two members are permitted to meet you. But our committee consists of eight members all of whom are real agriculturists. So we propose that a chance should be given to a majority of the Deputationists. So the following may be kindly permitted.

(1) Shrimant Desai of Sulla. He is the President of the District Local Board and M.L.A. Bombay. He is a big land-lord with great agricultural experience. Mr. S.G.Kulkarni who acts as interpreter to Mr. S.B.Desai is an experienced Pleader and Vice President of the D.L.B. He is also a land-lord and an agriculturist, cultivating his lands personally.

(2) Dr. K.B.Kottalgi is a Senior Medical Practitioner and a progressive agriculturist and has varied experience in matters of agriculture and bunding.

(3) Mr. R.B.Bidari, B.A.LL.B., owns hundreds of acres of land and is a practical agriculturist always trying to popularise improved methods of agriculture. He has been awarded with a certificate by the Director of Agriculture. He has also worked as a non-official member of the Bijapur District Fodder and Grazing Committee, from 1938 to 1940. He is at present Prime Minister of Aundh State.

(4) Rao Saheb G.K.Desai of Konnur is an M.L.A. He is the President of the Inamdars' Association holding thousands of acres of land. He was President of the D.L.B. He has personal experience about bunding as 2000 acres of his lands have been recently bunded.

The above mentioned persons if given an opportunity will be able to put forth fully their grievances.

So we hope that you will kindly give us an --

opportunity to meet you.

We beg to remain,
Sir,
Your obedient servants,

Bijapur.
31-10-1945.

Copy w.cs. to the Collector of Bijapur.

I was at Bijapur on Nov 1st - 3rd and

Mr. Sulla Desai - Pres.D.L.B.
R.S. Desai
Dr.Kottalgi
Mr.Bidari
Mr.Kulkarni.

I had an interview with the marginally noted persons i.e. most of those who waited on H.E. It had previously been made clear in discussion with the Collector that they were not opposed to bunding and the purpose of the meeting was to find out what they really thought and wanted. The Collector was present.

Mr.Sulla Desai (as Mr.Sausman previously told me) is pro-bunding, but thinks that we should follow the American system of broad-based bunds over which cultivation can be made.

Note. Sir William Jenkins saw this in U.S.A. and we shall probably make experiments on these lines for black cotton soil and possibly one in Bijapur. An experiment is already in progress at the Borgaon plot in Satara.

R.S.Desai said he was enthusiastic about bunding in the beginning and arranged for 2 experiments on his lands. He now, however, realises that there will be breaches every year causing the creation of nalas and flooding.

Dr.Kottalgi, Messrs Bidari and Kulkarni all maintained that bunding in black cotton soil as at present carried out will not work and there will be constant breaches. They went so far as to say that there were wholesale breaches in such bunds everywhere and that the free repairs to be carried out by Government for the first 2 seasons will not solve the problem. They also wanted less zig-zags in bunds in murum areas.

2. Since I was about then to do a tour of 40 miles along the Bijapur-Bagalkot-Bilgi road, I asked some of them to go ahead and select any random

place to show me this wholesale breaching in black cotton soil.

Actually they showed me bunds in Mulwad which I was to visit in any case and where breaches were admitted. This shows that wholesale breaching is not a fact and Mr. Sausman is prepared to produce figures to show that cost of repairing bunds in such lands is 4 per cent only. I certainly saw no such breaches in other places during an eighty mile drive each side of Bijapur and incidentally noted that crops were much better in bunded areas.

3. The history of Mulwad is a special one. During last years torrential rains bunds at Torvi near Bijapur and at Mulwad, which were constrncted early on an experimental scheme (all cost to be borne by Government) without full contour bunding collapsed wholesale. Those at Torvi were repaired earlier before H.E's visit and those at Mulwad only partially repaired. The same applies to Mangoli where most of the bunds were constructed under the older and now discarded block system.

During inspection of Mulwad large numbers of villagers appeared and said that bunding had done infinite harm to their lands and they wanted neither repairs or bunding in any form, in fact they wanted their lands restored to the status quo. (It is pretty certain that one of the deputationists visited the village the evening before and arranged all this).

The position at Mulwad is that the old original scheme ~~at Mulwa~~d was to be scrapped in any case. A scheme for new bunding under the Act had been drawn up and the consent of the villagers

obtained as usual before the Board sanctioned the scheme. It was intended that all the bunds should be repaired immediately after Mr. Perry's visit in August. Actually only those on one side of the road had been repaired before H.E's visit. There had been delay in repairing those on the other side which I saw, probably owing to agitation worked up by Mr. Bidari whose lands adjoin.

In conversation with Mr. Sothers while I was at a distance, ~~they~~ the villagers told him that their consent had been obtained shortly before H.E's visit on the threat that, if they did not agree, the Defence of India Act would be used against them.

(Mr. Siddhanti is a prominent (Congress) member of the District Famine Committee, whom Mr Sausman consulted re bunding at an early stage.)

4. I also saw Mr. Siddhanti and Sardar Dewan Bahadur Deshmukh, who told me that, while they were in favour of bunding, they thought the question of bunding in black soil lands (i.e. 65 per cent of the district) needed further examination. Mr. Siddhanti thought there should be higher bunds and some waste weirs. The bunds too should be lined with murum (this would vastly increase cost). Sardar Deshmukh thought that excessive zig-zags to follow strict contours ought to be avoided by levelling these places at the time of bunding. He also thought that, instead of excavating earth from pits all along the bund, a few deep ones only should be dug using the lower harder soil at the bottom to line the bunds (this too would mean excessive cost).

5. Mr. Sausman said that, ~~now that~~ since bunding was now following exact contour lines, he apprehended minimum breaching in black soil lands and ~~he said~~ that the people to were now

actually demanding these. Obviously, however, this question will need further examination. We are expecting a report from Dr. Shuhart which may make certain suggestions and some adjustments are to be expected on Sir William Jenkins' experience in U.S.A.

6. As to <u>damage to crops</u>, the position is that kharif and rabi lands have where possible to be bunded at different times, the former in December to March-April and the latter in June-August. This, however, does not cover villages in which kharif and rabi lands are interspersed and in such cases bunding has sometime to be done when ~~crops are~~ cultivation is in progress on ~~the ground.~~ I was told that the damage was never more than 12 annas per acre in such cases. Mr. Sausman said that, recently, whenever the villagers objected, the work was ordered to be stopped. Obviously, however, I think endeavour must be made to evolve a time-table to suit villages of this description.

7. As to the question of <u>compensation</u> raised in G.S' letter, Government, as observed above, pays the cost of repairing breaches for 2 years. In the particular cases of Mulwad and Mangoli the schemes were experimental, and though, when proper schemes under the Act are introduced, the cultivators will eventually have to maintain the bunds, they are not to pay for their cost since payment by Government was guaranteed in the case of experimental villages. As to damage to crops referred to in para 6, L.I.O.(G), Mr. Sausman, Director of Agriculture and I are strongly of opinion that payment of compensation in the cases of these villages will

have far-reaching repercussions in every other village in the Province and should not be made, apart from an admission of error. Repair of bunds for the first two seasons should be adequate concession.

8. As to the desirability of moving Mr. Sausman's headquarters, he pointed out to me that the distribution of work depends not on the three districts, but on the two areas north and south of the Krishna river. Most of the work, including that of Belgaum, is on the former which is easily accessible from Bijapu but not from Belgaum. That at Dharwar is also nearer Bijapur. There would also be the difficulty of moving the training school, which is the nucleus of not only training, but also of general propaganda. The Director of Agriculture and L.I.O.(G.) are also of opinion that it would be administratively undesirable to make the change.

9. As to the position in Mulwad referred to in para 3 of this note, especially the last sub-para of it, Mr. Sausman said that he would guarantee to bring the people round and also the agitating deputationists in a month. I am a little doubtful of this and if it fails, L.I.O.(G.) and myself consider that it will probably be necessary to have an enquiry by an independent authority, probably the Deputy Collector.

10. To summarise, my conclusions are:-

(a) There is undoubtedly some local feeling that bunding is not yet fully established on the right lines, but there should not be much difficulty in setting this right.

(b) There is likely to be difficulty in respect of black soil even under a system of complete contour bunding. It will be necessary to make further experiments whether on the lines of Sir William Jenkins' experience in U.S.A. or in the light of any recommendations which Dr. Shuhart may make. These experiments may involve some more free bunding in small areas, but it is worth while.

(c) In murum soils it may be possible to eliminate some of the sharper bends without departing from the principles of contour bunding.

(d) As regards damage to crops, it should be possible to devise a more exact time-table to eliminate bunding during the cultivating season.

There is no necessity to grant compensation.

(e) The headquarters of the L.I.O.(S.) should remain at Bijapur.

11. I am dealing with para 3 (c) of G.S' letter in a separate note.

6/11/45

H.E.(G.S.)

L.I.O.G. Pôrta. 9/11/45.

My dear Godfrey. Enclose herewith Sansom's written reply to the enquiries from the petitioners here & here, — with photographic enclosures. He has very kindly taken this time as I asked him on 22.10 to send his reply as soon as possible, but now that it has arrived I think you will find it comprehensive.

Yours Donald Dobbie

This arrived today after mail had returned from H.E. I do not think it is necessary to H.E. to see.

12/11/45 JG

" You would ask me more ", the Honorable Minister continued, "why the R.D.Board should not be entrusted with the execution of all the P.W.R. Schemes in the District." "The reply", he said is "obvious". Government already possessed a machinary with several departments through which it was carrying on its various schemes. It was - - natural that Government should desire to utilise this machinary to the fullest extent in working out its reconstruction programme. Government servants constituting this machinary were the servants of the people and the social worker including the members of the Board (Rural Development) had always a right to approach the officials discuss with them the working of the various Schemes entrusted to them and assist and advise them in working them out properly. The members could nto directly insist upon an officer carrying out their advice. But when there was a difference of opinion the officer could very well explain his point of view to the Board and the Board could communicate its opinion to Government for final decision.

The Hon'ble Minister then invited the members to explain their experience and difficulties, if any, in their work.

Mr. Sidhanti requested information on the following points:-

1. The D.R.D.B. had prepared several schemes and submitted them to Government some six months back. But the Board had not been informed what action has been taken in the matter.

2. The D.R. D.B. had not been given adequ te staff and so the work was suffering.

3. Government had allotted Rs.15,000/- to this Board; but since the Board was not to take up any executive work directly, it was not clear for what purpose the amount should be utilised.

The Hon'ble Minister replying said that the Schemes submitted by the Board were being examined by the Hon'ble Minister for - Reconstruction and Government orders regarding the same would issue early. As regards the staff for the R.D.Board the Hon'ble Minister replied that Governmenthad already sanctioned a minimum staff for the D.R.D.Boards and if additional staff was required, a case should be made out to Government, to that effect. The Collector and - - Chairman informed the Hon'ble Minister that a case had already been made out to Government but no reply was received. /A

As regards the grant of Rs.15,000/- to the Board the Hon'ble Minister informed the members that the amount could be utilised for working out such Schemes as did not fall within the sphere of any particular Department. He asked the Board to prepare their schemes in this connection and submit them to Government for sanction.

Mr. Ambl, said that the members of the Board expected Govt. to acceipt all the Schemes submitted by them since they were - prepared by persons possessing local knowledge. The Hon'ble Minister replied that due weight would be given to the Board's proposals but that the members could nto insist that all Schemes prepared by them must authmatically be accepted. There were several other considerations in the matter and the final decision could only rest with the Cabinet which was ultimately responsible to the people.

Replying to another question the Hon'ble Minister said that any information regarding the Schemes could be obtained from the local Departmental officer at the R.D.Board meeting or by approaching the department concerned through the Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Dubey pointed out that some of the Government officers lacked the national outlook which defeat folled the Government intention of bringing into operation speedily their reconstructio Shecmes.

The Hon'ble Minister replying said that Government had taken every opportunity to impress upon the officers that they should maintain the closest cooperation possible with the public in carrying out their duties. Those Government servants who could not adjust themselves to the changed circumstances would have to be weeded out of the machinary itself. But the members would do well to bear in mind one point namely that it would not be possible for the officers to implement the suggestions made or the advice tendered by the members or by the Board, directly. A Government servant was responsible to his superior officer and as such he would have to await orders from his superior authority. If this point was understood, much of the musunderstanding that seemed to exist would be cleared up.

The Executive Engineer at this stage stated that the D.H.P. Board had passed several resolutions regarding the village water Supply Works, Irrigation Schemes, etc., and that they naturally expected the P.W.D. to carry them out. But Governrent had laid down a certain procedure for Departmental work and in accordance with that procedure all of them cluld not be carried out.

The Hon'ble Minister agreed that he must obtain Government orders before taking up any of the Schemes but he should give necessary information, in the matter to the D.R.D.S. of course subject to Departmental rules.

Replying to another question, he informed the Board that it would not be proper to raise the prices of foodgrains any further even to encourage the Growing of More Food Crops.

The Agenda was then taken up for discussion and subjects Nos. 1 & 2 (Lift Irrigation Scheme at Haveli and Yelgur and organisation of a Joint Farming Society at Malgi) were passed over since there was nothing special to discuss in the matter, now that the Hon'ble Minister had visited Yelgur and Malgi.

Subject 3:- Proposal to appoint two experienced Agricultural Assistants In charge Korti and Shivayogmadir lift irrigation Schemes, to coordinate the work. The Hon'ble Minister informed the Board that he had already accepted the proposal and that the District Agricultural officer had been asked to submit specific proposals in the matter. Explaining the subject the Hon'ble Minister said that the Agricultural Assistant now to be appointed would be fully responsible for working out the Scheme successfully. The P.W.D. Staff would then be responsible only for running the machinary and discharging water as per suggestion of the Agl. Assistant.

The Hon'ble Minister further suggested that it would be useful if a Government Demonstration farm were organised in the area with a view to demonstrating to the cultivators improved methods of cultivation, under irrigation conditions. The Agrl. Assistant in charge of the irrigation Scheme would easily run such a farm. He asked the District Agricultural officer to submit a detailed scheme in this connection for Government's consideration.

As regards the construction of sub-channels under the lift irrigation scheme, the Hon'ble Minister thought that these channels should be constructed deparmentally at Government cost. The District Agricultural Officer was asked to submit a report in the matter to the Rural Development Board and to forward a copy thereof to the Executive Engineer.

Subject No.4:- Electric Grid Scheme proposed to be installed at Bhutnal.

Consideration of the subject was dropped as all the papers had already been sent to Government.

Letter.

No.S.C.637 of 1945.
Bijapur, 6th November'45.

To
The Land Improvement Officer (General),
Poona.

With reference to your letter No.S-205, of the 22nd ultimo, I send herewith my remarks on the two extracts from an address presented to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, during the visit to Bijapur.

In response to the first extract, I say most emphatically that not a single representation from anyone, no matter what his social status has been, was left undealt with by me. In September I dealt with many personally though, for obvious reasons, I have to send them to the Divisional Officers concerned for enquiry and report. I give a few examples of cases dealt with by me during the month preceeding His Excellency's visit to Bijapur ie., in September 1945, when my labour strength exceeded 30,000 daily labour and work was at its peak. This is a period when I can least afford any time for any work other than inspection, but I gave attention to the following:-

(a) At about 6 P.M. on 28-8-45, Mr.G.D.Jahagirdar, B.A.,L.L.B., accompanied by Mr.K.R.Deshpandey, B.A.,L.L.B., and some villagers presented an application to me stating that the bunding was not suitable for their lands at Thamba. Mr.K.R.Deshpandey is a landlord from there and his signature was the first on the application. I immediately gave him an appointment for the morning of 3-9-45 at Thamba. On the morning of 3-9-45, when I was due to leave, Mr. Deshpandey called (if) was keeping my appointment. I told him I was not well, but that I would keep my appointment. He tried to dissuade me from doing so, but I insisted and asked if he and Mr. Jahagirdar were accompanying me or not. He replied that they would follow about a couple of hours latter in a taxi. I asked them to do away with the taxi and come with me, and waited for them till 11 A.M. Besides Mr.Jahagirdar and Mr.Deshpandey, I took along Mr. Shidanti, the Joint Hon.Secretary of the Wilson anti-famine Institute, and the Joint Hon.Secretary of the Bijapur Famine Relief Committee, together with Mr.T.S.Kaujalgi, Hon.Secretary of the Cattle-breeding Centre and a noted Social Worker of Bijapur. He is the younger brother of the late Mr.Hanmantrao Kaujalgi and almost as well-known as his elder brother. I had with me the Divisional Officer concerned and, while passing through Indi town, I called on and took the Mamladar with me. We met the cultivators in their fields, spent the day in the open fields in the sun, and returned home at sun-set, having completed about 116 miles that day. All the objections of the men were met and I invited these men, at my expense as there is no grant for such work, to come to Bijapur on 6-9-45. They chose about a dozen men, but came on 7-9-45 to Bijapur. I and my Officers spent about three hours that evening taking them around the B.T.C., listening to their objections and explaining everything to them. Mr.Jahagirdar is a very noted anti-bunding man and one almost as well-known as Mr.Habbu, a pleader from Bijapur. As Mr.Jahagirdar had some urgent work at Ahmednagar, Mr.Habbu deputised for him on 7-9-45. I am glad to say that the men were thoroughly satisfied, apologized for their obstinacy, and asked us to come soon to their village for a meeting. A week latter the meeting was held at Thamba late in the evening and there has been unanimous consent to permit bunding. A few days latter, two men from the village called on me and asked me to stop bunding in sown feilds. Mr.Habbu saw me a couple of days latter on the same point and I informed him that I had completely stopped bunding in accordance with the wishes of the people, but I would be glad to take it up as soon as the crops were harvested.

I send two photographs taken at the B.T.C. One shows me, seated on a table in one of the rooms, talking to Mr.Deshpandey (marked "x" in the photograph). The man (marked "a" in the photograph is Mr.Habbu. The villagers are seated on the ground, listening to

the arguments, whilst the Headmaster of the Government High School, Bijapur, is the man outside (marked "b" in the photograph), listening attentively. Having won the men over, I immediately obtained conveyance to drive them out to a large area within easy reach of Bijapur to show them the benefit contour has over other types of bunding. The second photograph shows me talking to the people just before they got into the conveyance.

(b) On 19-9-45, at 6 P.M. I received an application from Mr.Kambargi on behalf of his client at Indi, objecting to bunding through lands under crops. The 19th was a Wednesday. Before Mr. Kambargi could go, I had despatched a telegram to Indi intimating to my staff that I would personally see the area on Friday morning ie., within 36 hours after the receipt of the application. I went there on Friday, met the land-owner and many others from Indi, settled their case in their favour and transferred my labour to waste land. From there I proceeded and attended to two other cases brought to me personally by owners while inspecting works and reached back at Bijapur again at sunset, having completed 120 miles that day.

(c) In September again at the request of Mr.T.S.Kujalgi and others I visited on different occasions three other works. At this time came an objection from the villagers of Jakkli on the same grounds that bunding was not suitable to their lands. I had to proceed to Poona for the investiture, and on my return I had to devote myself to the visit of His Excellency the Governor. I asked my D.L.I.O. Dharwar to see the Mamladar of Ron and with him have preliminary talks with the Jakkli villagers. He did so and reported that considerable progress had been made. I asked him to get the village, which is a good Congress Centre, to elect representatives and to depute them to Bijapur, again at my expense owing to the lack of funds for this purpose, so that I might meet and deal with them urgently. They arrived on 12-10-45, the first day of H.E. the Governor's visit to Bijapur. I got my Officers to show them round the B.T.C.& our stalls on that day. The next morning, I arranged to have them taken out to Hippergi, Jalhwad, Kannur and Sindhgeri. I provided, at my cost, the transport for them and asked them to meet me at Hippergi at noon that day as His Excellency was shheduled for his inspection of our work at Hippergi about that time. His Excellency having completed his inspection of our works, I took leave of him and sent word to the people that I was ready and waiting for them. It was a warm day and I was perspiring very heavily. I took my coat off and took these people around works, answered their questions and promised to give a practical demonstration of everything I had said in any of the bunded villages near at hand, if they wanted it. I fear that in my enthusiasm for my work, I neglected my health, as I contracted chill and influenza and was confined to bed for some considerable time after that week-end. On Sunday the 14th September, these four representatives with my Officer called on me at my Bangalow office, told me they were thoroughly satisfied, that the work was good and beneficial to the Carnatic and that they would carry on propaganda for us and give their lands to bunding.

Besides the above, I send two photographs at one of which I am at the black-board --- a folding black-board which belongs to me and which I always carry on the back of my car --- answering objections by the men seated at the foot of the table. This photograph was taken at Hungund, at a meeting where more than 2000 people attended The Mamladar of Hungund, his sub-ordinates, the Assistant Recruiting Officer who happened to be there that day, and leading gentlemen from Hungund and the surrounding villages were present. The Mamladar is marked "x" in the photograph. I send another photograph taken at Annigeri after a Propoganda meeting. The Mamladar of Navalgund is marked "x" and the big mill-owner of that tract is marked "a".

I believe I have said enough to refute the allegation that representations are made to me without any avail.

The statement that I gave a reply that it was a technical matter taken up by Government as a matter of experiment at Government cost and that no useful purpose will be served by calling a meeting, or by having any personal discussion, is true in so far as the wording goes. The conditions under which that reply was given and those now presented are very different. That statement

refers to a reply given by me through the Collector to Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni, B.A., L.L.B., of Muddebahal. The facts are that in June 1943, Advisor (R) visited Bijapur and at that time the Director of Agriculture and the Commissioner (S.D.) attended. Certain objections were put forward at ~~Ruddebhxxx~~ Madbhavi by the Commissioner. In the following month I attended a meeting called by the Mamladar at Muddebahal and at Talikot. Those objections adduced by Mr. Swamirao Kulkarni at the opening meeting were dealt with by me. To create greater confidence, I brought him and some others to Bijapur, inspecting along the route the works at Bommanhalli, Jhalwadi, Hipparagi, Shivangi and Madbhavi. Everyone at the meeting was thoroughly satisfied and those who came with me went back and created greater confidence except Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni. Talikot was given for bunding immediately and this is the third year consecutively that we are working there to the entire satisfaction of the people. I have in my possession letters of appreciation by land owners there for the good we have done.

On 31-8-45 Advisor (F) visited Bijapur and met people from here. Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni raised the points he raised at the meeting at Talikot, but were turned down by the Advisor (F). At the meeting at Mangoli in the first week of September, I was able to see and read those objections which were typed on a half sheet of paper and which Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni permitted to read at the Mangoli meeting.

In the first week of September 1943 after the block-bunding projects had been completed at Mangoli, I held a meeting at which the District Deputy Collector and the Mamladar of Bhagewadi attended. Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni and Dr.Kotalgi -- two of the representatives of the deputation which saw His Excellency on the recent visit to Bijapur -- also attended. Mr.Swamirao Kulkarni is a wathandar kulkarni of Mangoli, though he has Government permission to place a substitute there and practise at Muddebahal where he resides -- a distance of 35 miles away. These two gentlemen being residents of Mangoli and with their relatives succeeded in causing distrust amongst the villagers, who would not bund their lands unless there were waste-weirs and the bunds were on the field boundaries. I was forced to close down the famine work at Mangoli at a time when I had approximately 2500 daily labour at work and to move my labour to other areas.

I then got this communique from Mr.Kulkarni, asking for certain information and a discussion. I had made four attempts to convert Mr.Kulkarni, but without avail, and I felt that the only thing left to me was to permit nature in the form of rain to prove my statements. I must admit that at that time I was puzzled what answer to give, but I was soon greatful for the delay caused by that perplexity. Apart from putting me the posers I found, when I received copies of their replies to Mr.Kulkarni, that he had put the same questions to the Director of Agriculture, the Deputy Director of Agriculture S.D. Dharwar, the Commissioner, S.D., and others, but did not disclose this fact to anyone. It was a trick by him to obtain conflicting statements from the different Officers and then to confront us with those statements. The Director of Agriculture who was and is the Head under whom I serve, came to Bagalkot on 28-10-43 and from there to Bijapur the next day. On the evening of 31-10-43 he granted an interview to Messrs.Hanmantrao Kaujalgi, Shidanti and Swamirao Kulkarni. I leave the Director to tell of that interview. Mr.Kulkarni latter sent a note to me stating that he wished to write an article on bunding under our joint signatures, but I refused to sign anything. I wrote to him to this affect.

It was just before the Director of Agriculture came to Bijapur in October 1943, that I, on realising that Mr.Kulkarni was trying to obtain conflicting statements from various officers, so as to attack Government, gave him a reply that no useful purpose would be served, and left him to be dealt with by one Officer only ie., the Head of the Department, the Director of Agriculture. I feel in acting as I did I safeguarded Government.

The foregoing has dealt with the allegation that my reply

to the public are curt. No man who invites the public to meetings, takes them to the school, goes to the villagers and redress their grievances can be accused of being curt.

In addition to the people I attended on in September 1945, I failed to mention the fact I met Mr. Desai, the President of the Local District Board, whom I took along with another gentleman to the B.T.C. and dealt with all his objections. He does not stay at Bijapur, but was here on some work and on learning that he would still be here the next day also, I told him that as technical points were involved I would be glad to devote the next day also to him if he came with the District Local Board Engineer and the other gentleman. He did, and Mr. Wagle, B.E., an Engineer of many years standing, helped Mr. Desai. It was after these meetings that Mr. Desai accepted bunds on the contour, without waste-weirs, but wanted them with broad bases to cultivate over them. I have agreed to do 200 acres of his lands according to his wishes after the crops are harvested to prove that it is the economic side which prohibits the adoption of his idea.

I say most emphatically that I have not been curt to anyone. On the other hand, two months ago my D.L.I.O.(S) was at Mudibahal when he heard that Mr. Swamirao Kulkarni was there. He sent a message to him asking to see him, but the reply he got was that it would not be in the interest of my Officer to see him as a Member of the Land Improvement Section. He would see him as a private individual. My Officer rightly did not accept.

I am certain that that threat of force and prosecution chit has not been written by me or by anyone of my Officers. I have made enquiries and I now learn that it was a chit from a Revenue Officer. Whenever there is any trouble we know that we have no other way than to approach the local revenue Officer ie., the Mamladar, to intervene for us and we leave him to do the rest. I am also certain that this is the only time when a Mamladar did issue a warning to the people.

Finally, they talk of the breaches at Mangoli and Mulwad. At Mangoli there are block-bunding schemes, and therefore are not really our works. Besides, on hearing from the Commissioner S.D., on 20-10-43, that bunds at Mangoli had breached, I wrote to him a D.O. letter dated 21/10/43 that the bunds had been breached by the people, and that the foot-prints were still on the bund tops. The Commissioner was then camping at Bijapur. I sent at that time a copy of that letter to the Director of Agriculture, Poona. The works carried out by the Land Development Section in 1943 were large-scale experimental bunding and Dryfarming works. The word "experimental" ipsofacto implies that some, if not most, of the works would be faulty. A faulty bunding work breaches. The Director of Agriculture took me at the end of March 1943, to see Adviser (F) in Bombay, and told him then that experiments meant many faults and he accepted it. The works at Mulwad are experimental works carried out in 1943. The breaches were shown to Sir Henry Knight by me on 20-9-44, and Sir Henry Knight sent the Director of Agriculture and L.I.C.(General) to see them in October 1944. I also showed them to Mr. Perry at the end of July 1945. That bunds at Mulwad breached had been disclosed to all and these people now try to capitalize the fact. I have 165 projects in operation in my charge at present. In these about 3,50,000 acres have been improved, and this acerage represents in work about 15,000 running miles of bunds. The Mulwad breaches are in an area of 2500 acres out of the huge total done to date. If the work is not suited to the tract, there should be atleast half the acerage of 1,75,000 acres breached to make the rule, whereas Mulvad is one of the exceptions.

Land Improvement Officer,
(South Circle)

Accomp:
5 Photographs
Rao/S.L.A.(S)

SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR
BOMBAY

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
BOMBAY
8th November 1945.

Dear Hulland

Please see the attached translation of an article which appeared in the issue of the Samyukta Karnataka of the 31st October 1945 regarding the bunding scheme in Bijapur district. (A copy has already been sent to you by the Oriental Translator).

His Excellency thinks it might be desirable to issue a counter-statement. Would you kindly arrange this, unless there are any reasons to the contrary?

Yours sincerely

W.G.Hulland, Esq., ICS,
Joint Secretary to Government,
Reconstruction Department.

Samyukta Karnatak 10.45 (Hubli, dist. Dharwar)

The Bijapur correspondent of the Samyukta Karnatak writes:- The bunding scheme undertaken by the Land Development Officer in the Bijapur district has been an utter failure. The bunds have given way almost everywhere. As a result of this scheme, the produce of the lands has not increased even to a tiny extent. There are instances to show that the crops in many of the lands in the district were destroyed as a result of the construction of these bunds. During his H.E.the Governor's recent visit to Bijapur, the President of the D.L.B.,Bijapur, and some prominent men of the city convinced H.E. of the futility of these bunds and requested H.E. to discontinue the bunding scheme immediately. So far twenty five lakhs of rupees have been wasted on this futile scheme. Though Government is aware of this huge waste of public money, it has no mind to put a stop to this waste. This huge sum might have been better utilised in constructing tanks and canals

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Forwarded w.c. to:-

x x x

4. The Secy to H.E.the Governor,Bombay;

x x x

for information.

Sd. x x x
Oriental Translator to Government.

This was shown to me by Joint Secy. R.C.D.

2. Since it relates to the particular question which His Excellency asked me to enquire into, and in regard to which I have recently visited Bijapur, I am not clear why Joint Secy. has been separately asked to take action, at any rate pending decision as to what action is required following my visit.

3. The newspaper in question is one of no importance, and the correspondent mentioned was presumably one of the persons opposed to bunding for personal reasons.

4. Propaganda is part of the regular machinery of the Land Development Department, and it is carried out in Bijapur through the Bunding School and by lectures arranged in villages by L.I.O.(S.). I think that any statement by Government of the nature suggested in G.S' letter would be likely to cause misunderstanding, and it would certainly be desirable to consult the Director of Agriculture and L.I.O.(G.) before it is done. Unless the statement was carefully worded, it would create the impression that Government considered that there was something seriously wrong with bunding in Bijapur District. G.S. has already seen L.I.O.(G)'s notes on the criti cisms raised by the deputationists who waited on His Excellency, which give ample material for a statement, should any statement be desirable in due course. Bunding is being enthusiastically welcomed in all the districts, and in other parts of

Bijapur where this particular agitation is not taking place. I think, therefore, a statement replying to these criticisms would be misleading and hinder the progress of bunding.

The most I would advocate would be one of reviewing the progress of bunding, referring to the difficulties being experienced and the experimental measures being taken and the effects observed so far. This would be preferable than to join issue with a somewhat irresponsible newspaper.

(A

8/11/45 fc

I accept [illegible] G.S.

I have not yet received back the main case + it might be awaited.

12/11/45 fc To Rev

Main case received today.
L.I.O.G asked to draft statement in ans. to Def Apic. + to submit to Rev. for his approval.

12/11/45 fc

Confidential

Tr Secy REP. may see
information first. Will he send
on the letter + papers after perusal?

12/11/45
Tr Secy REP (by hand)

484
C-2115-1

X sent on by R.P.
12/11

UNITED PRESS OF INDIA

London, October 12. (U.P.I)

"The transcendent feature of the political situation in India is the volcanic hatred that one finds in the people's hearts for England and everything English. It is hatred that grows with bitterness that is added by every day of frustration. Nowhere is this hatred stronger than in the Army and in the enemy category is it stronger than among the officers. If out of negligence or concern for our world position or even out of honest desire to unite India before quitting India, we permit matters to drag until mass Civil Disobedience breaks out again, then the rank and file of the Army will side with the people and officers will lead the rank and file", writes an English Officer, David Carpenter, recently returned from India in an article in this week's radical weekly, the "Tribune".

Carpenter bases his views on frequent discussions he had with "young Indian intellectuals who are to-day Officers in the Indian Army and who will certainly exert an enormous influence on the future of Indian politics".

He adds: "Though their experience in the Army has not taught them to hate the enemy less it has taught them to hate the British more. I think, they will leave the Army embittered by discrimination and by superior attitude of their British fellow officers confident in their own ability to administer and command passionately determined that India must govern herself and equally determined that India must be united so that she may be strong".

Carpenter further declares that an overwhelming majority even among Muslim Officers do not believe in Pakistan and said to him "a Government headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and based on concessions to which the Congress has already committed itself would, command confidence of a vast majority of the Muslim people".—United Press of India.

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cable page 3 of October 12. Bas. 10 a.m.

Subject No.5:- Progress of village Water Supply Scheme under P.W.D. entrusted to the P-W.D., and the difficulties that hamper the speedy execution of the works proposed under scheme.

The Executive Engineer explained the reasons for the slow progress of the village water Supply Works said that a lot of time was at present lost in obtaining administrative Approval for construction of new works as he had no powers to give administrative approval. Further the powers of the Superintending Engineer in this connection were also limited to Rs.5000/- only. Well works costing more than that had to be sent to Government for obtaining administrative approval and it took many months before it was obtained. The Executive Engineer, suggested that the Rural Development Board, might be given powers to give administrative approval to well works costing upto Rs.15,000/-. The Hon'ble Minister asked the Executive Engineer to give him a note in the matter.

The Divisional Forest Officer, replying to a querry by the Hon'ble Minister said that he had already explained to this Board the Government's Scheme for re-afforestation and development of village Wood-lands and pastures. A note prepared by the Divisional Forest Officer, was already distributed amongst the Board - - members. He gave another note on the development of Lac Industry.

The question whether it would be possible to minimise the damage now done to the tree growth by putting restrictions on the present indiscriminate felling of trees was then considered. Several suggestions made in this behalf were considered as impracticable under the existing circumstances.

After a vote of thanks by Mr, Ambli, to the Hon'ble Minister for having taken all the trouble of coming over here and for having conducted the Rural Development Board meeting so very patiently, the meeting terminated.

1055 E-33627 (T) 04-12-1947

D/ No. R.D.B./P.

Sd/- H.H.A.Whitworth.
Collector, and Chairman, D.R.D.B.,
Bijapur.

Bijapur,8 -11-1947-

Forwarded With compliments to:-

All Members of the District Rural Development Board, Bijapur.

The Secretary, to the Provincial Rural Development Board, Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

The Secretary, to the Government of Bombay, Agrl. & R.D.D., Bombay.

The Deputy Engineer, sholapur and Bijapur Minor Irrigation, S.Dn., Sholapur with reference to his letter No. 37 of 25-7-1947.

Collector and Chairman,
District Rural Development, Board,
Bijapur.

Submitted for information.

2 As regards 'A' on page 3 and the action required by G.L. No. 1055/30(3).E dated 8th Nov 1947 a note underlying at

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

My dear Jenkins

I sent for [redacted] in regard to the allegations made against [redacted] during His Excellency's recent visit to [redacted] and in regard to my subsequent visit.

Could you pass them on to [redacted] for the guidance of the decision on the question and for this necessary action and inform [redacted] in due course. He may also be requested to return the papers. I have [redacted] case a separate note regarding action on those complaints.

I also sent for [redacted] and [redacted] (not to go into action) a separate note [redacted] about [redacted].

I also sent further papers [redacted] in regard to an article which appeared in the [redacted] for [redacted] publication. The best course now [redacted] would draft the statement required to be communicated with you and send it to [redacted] for approval.

[redacted]

12/11

Sir William Jenkins, CIE.,
Director of Agriculture, [redacted].

Office of the Director of Agriculture,

Bombay Province,

Poona.

20th. November 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL CF/1/-

My Dear Collins,

I have received your confidential letter dated 12th. November with the accompanying three sets of papers marked respectively A, B and C. I have discussed these papers with Sothers.

With regard to the file A, your Note on your visit to Bijapur, dated 6.11.45, and, in particular, the conclusions resulting from that visit summarized in para 10 of the Note appear to call for no specific action other than (1) the intensification of further experimental work on bunding, especially in black cotton soils (2) inquiry into the possibility of eliminating sharper bends without departure from the principles of contour bunding and (3) the drawing up of a time-table to eliminate bunding during the cultivating season.

With regard to (1) and (2) above, you will shortly receive the Minutes of a Land Development Officers' Conference which I held on the 13th. of this month to discuss the future organization and work of the Land Development Section in the light of some of the experience gained by me on my tour in the U.S.A. I think you will find that we have stressed at the meeting the urgent necessity for further scientific research work on technical aspects of bund construction and the two items noted by you above will be dealt with as soon as possible under this programme of expansion of research work. With regard to (3) above, it is not possible to eliminate bunding entirely during the cultivating season but I will issue orders that, under no circumstances, must bunding be done in growing crop areas except with the written permission of the owner.

In a further Note written by you after your visit to Bijapur calling for figures from Sausman regarding the extent and cost of repairs to bunds undertaken this year, Sothers will obtain the information which will be sent to you as soon as possible.

File B (CaseII) is returned to you herewith. I have no comments to make as I have expressed my views in this connection personally to His Excellency.

File C. I agree with your opinion at para A but am not quite clear as to the nature of the review required or the method you wish to give it publicity. Is it to be of the nature of a Press Note ? If so I suggest that the matter might wait till you have seen the Minutes of the Land Development Officers' Conference mentioned above. When Government decide what action to take on the proposals contained in these Minutes a Press Note might then be issued giving, not only the information which you ask for, but an outline of the future policy of Government in regard to the expansion and development of land development work.

I may add that two articles, written by me, and dealing with some aspects of my visits to the U.S.A. will shortly appear in the "Times Illustrated Weekly" and will, I hope, be of propaganda and educative value.

I return the papers sent with your D.O. letter.

Yours sincerely,

484.
C22058

Sir Godfrey Collins,
C.S.I., K.C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S.,
Adviser to Gocernment,
Secretariat, Bombay.

Confidential.

Office of the Adviser (Revenue & Pu
Secretariat, Bombay.
21st November 1945.

My dear Jenkins

Your confidential letter No. CF/1/- of the 20th November, about bunding.

2. With regard to (2) in the second sub-paragraph of your letter, i.e. the drawing up of a time-table to eliminate bunding during the cultivating season, I think Government will require some general report on the question stating the practice followed at present and the steps which can be taken to improve matters, rather than the general statement to the effect that it is not possible to eliminate bunding entirely during the cultivating season. It seems to me to be obvious that something could be done to improve the time-table. In the meantime, I note the orders which you are going to issue.

3. Presumably also the question whether bunds in black cotton soil can be strengthened without really increasing the work has to be examined. Probably, however, this matter was dealt with at the Land Development Officers' Conference referred to in your letter.

4. I think, too, further action is required with regard to paragraph 9 of my note dated the 6th November, i.e. Government will require to know in due course something about the situation at Mulund. In other words, whether Gautama has succeeded in bringing round opinion to his side and the bunds will consequently be repaired, or whether it will be necessary to hold the enquiry referred to in my note.

5. As to File 3, the method of publicity will obviously be a Press Note to be issued by Government, but it is intended that it should be drawn up by A.I.A.O.(S.) in consultation with you and approved by you both. I think it best to amplify what I said about the nature of the [illegible], i.e. that it should be a general

history of the progress and success of bunding, the difficulties which have been experienced and how it is proposed to deal with them, and also,as you say,an outline of the future policy of Government in regard to the expansion and development of land development work. In the meantime, I will, as you suggest, omit the minutes of the Land Development Officers' Conference, but His Excellency would like the Press Note to issue without much delay.

6. I do not again return the papers, as I presume that the necessary extracts have been taken.

Yours sincerely

To

24/11/45

Issued on 27/11

Sir William Jenkins, CIE.,
Director of Agriculture, Bombay Province,
Poona.

R.C.D.

90 1205 of 1445

Office of the Land Development Officer (3),

Central Buildings,

Poona.

13th. December 1945.

My dear Collins,

I enclose for your information a comprehensive note from Bausman on the subject of cost of bund repairs in the South Circle. The figures speak for themselves, but I might stress the point that for normal small breaches repair costs are less than As.6 per acre. In the case of the large scale breaches repairs have cost from As.8 per acre downwards, but as Bausman points out these are more in the nature of remodelling works, replacing earlier faulty experimental designs, than repairs proper. We do not in consequence expect to have to meet such expenditure again.

As the North Circle has had no extensive breaching and as also the proportion of black cotton soil bund is much less in that area I have not called for detailed figures, but I can confirm my statement to you that in general repair costs are inside As.4 per acre.

Yours sincerely,

D. Bollen

Sir W.F.S. Collins,
C.I.E., M.V.O., O. .E., I.C.S.,
Adviser to Government,
Secretariat,
Bombay.

Encls:

Copy Letter: No.A.C. 2252 of 1945.
Bijapur. 7th.December,1945.

To:
The Land Improvement Officer, (General) Poona.

Subject: Breached Areas - Repairs to.....

Reference your endorsement No.S-205 of 8-11-1945, I have the honour to forward herewith two statements showing expenditure incurred on (a) Extensively breached areas and (b) Areas where only minor breaches or patch repairs had to be undertaken, and to state that an area of 3,36,000 has so far been improved at an approximate cost of Rs.38,24000. The percentage of repairs on the whole cost works out to 3.6 per cent.

2. I would further point out that the total cost of works in breached areas together with the expenditure incurred on repairs work out to Rs.11.6 per acre.

3. Of the 8 extensively breached areas S.Nos.1&4 (Torvi and Honwad) were under one man - S.L.A. Kirpekar who was dismissed by me as he had without authority, disregarded all written orders. These breaches were therefore due solely to the personal factor plus the abnormal rain (see adviser (F) note of 20-9-44). S.No.2 breached during the abnormal rain on 16-9-44, when about 5 feet of water stood in the village. Owing to scarcity of labour repairs could not be undertaken till later August 1945 and the breaches were thus accentuated by this years rain as 5 inches fell in two precipitation in the last week of July 1945. It is the experimental work of 1943.S.No.5 Salotgi and Nad are also the experimental areas of 1943. S.No.6 Managoli is a number of block bunding schemes. On 21.10.1943 I wrote D.O. No.S.A.3500 to Mr.V.S.Bhide,Commissioner, S.D. pointing out that these works had been deliberately breached by the cultivators whose foot-prints were still on the bunds and sent a copy of it to the Director of Agriculture. The Director of Agriculture was granted a copy of it. The Rs.14/- per acre subsidy was not paid to the land-owner.

4. The shortage of labour plus the urgency repairs compelled a 50% increase in wages for all the foregoing withal the total cost (original plus repairs) on all

the projects works out to Rs.11.6.0 per acre.

5. Finally as all work has now to be done on the contour breaches of only a few feet often require a couple of hundred feet of bund length, along the contour, for repairs. In this way Torvi, Mulwad, Honwad, Salotgi, Nad and Managoli are practically new projects as the straight bunding has been replaced by the contour.

Signed. V.A.V. Sausman.

Land Improvement Officer (South)

Land Improvement Section, South Circle, Bi

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXPENDITURE ON EXTENSI BREACHED areas
UPTO 31-10-1945

No.	Name of the village.	Area bunded & trenched upto 31-10-45 in Acres.	Expenditure incurred thereon.	E: t: I	li- on rs.	Remarks.
1.	Torvi	2,982	28,485	1.	3	Bijapur Dist
2.	Mulwad	3,192	39,009	1	4	"
3.	Bableshwar	2,981	33,572		9	"
4.	Honwad	4,842	53,754	1	3	"
5.	Salotgi & Had	5,956	63,655	1	2	"
6.	Managoli	1,716	20,592	1	2	"
7.	Revadikop	859	8,579		5	Dharwar Dist
8.	Ch-Nargund	711	8,753		1	"
	Total :	23,241	Rs. 2,56,399	Rs.	65	

Sd/-
Land Improvement
x
ficer (South)
apur.

Land Improvement Section South Circle, Bijapur.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXPENDITURE ON MINOR BREACHES OR PATCH REPAIRS UPTO 31-10-1945.

S.No.	Name of the village	Area bunded & trenched upto 31-10-1945 in ACRES.	Expenditure incurred there-on.	Expenditure on minor repairs.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bijapur North					
1.	Jumnal	2,642	32,675	1,330	
2.	Kolhar	2,100	23,888	1,161	
3.	Hallad-Gennur	1,632	19,249	68	
4.	Hipparagi	17,442	2,02,555	733	
5.	Kanmadi	3,985	46,144	1,364	
6.	Horti	3,924	34,945	2,306	
7.	Nimbal	2,491	26,601	540	
8.	Talikot	1,830	19,446	605	
9.	Hanchli & Kondguli	5,726	62,521	2,278	
10.	Ainapur	3,527	33,581	3,533	
11.	Shivangi	8,125	83,489	1,847	
12.	Bibi-Ingalgi	1,248	13,300	392	
13.	Kowlgi & Honnutgi	8,837	94,480	535	
14	Kag-Nimbargi	664	7,449	310	
15.	Madabhavi	11,713	1,40,566	6,644	
	TOTAL FOR BIJAPUR North:-	75,886	8,40,889	23,646	
Bagalkot South.					
	Bevoor	8,546	89,256	5,788	
	Sonna	1,670	15,932	248	
	Shiddapur	2,685	26,276	411	
4.	Bilgi	9,562	98,538	5,727	
5.	Bisnal	2,783	29,298	1,275	
6.	Tulsigeri	2,739	30,432	1,030	
7.	Hungund	3,917	41,182	957	
8.	Dhannur	2,163	23,370	180	
9	Simkeri	1,481	14,097	1,294	
10.	Sangam	1,645	15,934	395	
11.	Hallur	1,573	16,957	1,218	
12	Shirur	2,023	18,389	298	
13	Govankop	2,593	23,770	1,038	
14	Hansanur	2,288	26,106	528	
15	Bagalkot	3,000	36,017	1,107	
16	Bhagwati	2,500	30,026	1,193	
17	Murnal	226	1,897	344	
	TOTAL FOR BAGALKOT South:	51,394	5,36,478	23,011	
	TOTAL FOR BIJAPUR DISTRICT:-	1,27,280	13,77,367	46,657	
DHARWAR DISTRICT					
1.	Khanapur	1,272	13,418	1,485	
2.	Naregal	8,891	1,01,821	7[illegible]	
3.	Radder-Nagnur	1,219	12,396	[illegible]	
4.	Abbigeri	4,564	45,581	[illegible]341	
5.	Ron	2,665	26,480	693	
6.	Nidgundi	4,496	45,[illegible]	2,999	
7.	Kotumachgi	2,037	22,520	375	
8.	Adanur	[illegible]930	10,367	[illegible]	
	Total for Dharwar District:	26,074	2,78,326	14,658	

P.T.O....

1	2	3	4	5
	GRAND TOTAL FOR SOUTH CIRCLE.	1,53,354	16,55,693	61,315

Sd:- x x x
Land Improvement Officer (South)
Bijapur.

BGS: 12-12

See para 2 of my note on pages 29-30 of the file placed below, which shows that the purpose of this enquiry was not so much to find out what the cost per acre was to repair breaches, but to show that the total cost of repairing breaches was so infinitesimal as to disprove immediately the statement at A in para 1 of my note on page 29 of the file. Mr. Sausman stated at the time that the cost of repairing bunds was 4 per cent only, i.e. 1/25th of the cost.

2. It is true that the total cost incurred in Bijapur District for the villages other than the eight villages where extensive breaching took place, is Rs.46,657 only as against Rs. 13,77,367 for the total cost of bunding, i.e. about 3 per cent only. But the cost of repairs in the eight villages concerned is very heavy. Mr. Sausman's statement is therefore partly true and partly exaggerated.

3. My own view is that we still have to solve the question of fairly frequent breaches in black cotton soil, but A (F), who has now again taken over the portfolio, may hold a different view.

4. I think A (F) ought to see this file, and, as enquiry was initiated by His Excellenc perhaps he too should see these subsequent papers.

A (F) 15/12/45

H.E.(G.S.)(?)

I entirely agree with A(R) that we have not solved ~~the~~ all the problems of bunding and that the quicker we can press on with ~~x~~ scientific experiments the better.

2 I believe that some of the black cotton soil is inherently unstable and need careful scientific bunding experiment.

3 The breaches ~~monsoon~~ in the monsoon before last were very disappointing, but partly they were undoubtedly due to bad work, and in one case at least due to what must have been a minor cloud burst.

4 Sir William Jenkins' tour in America appears to indicate that in ~~no~~ low rainfall areas the American practice is the same as ours (except that ~~our~~ thin bunds ~~are not~~ may not be so ~~thin.~~ I want, if possible, to try fairly extensive substitution of ~~lower~~ our low contour bunds ~~for~~ a combination of our present bunds at larger intervals with lower bunds in between.

5 ~~If the~~ One problem is not ~~yet solved~~ Tackled, the possibility of ~~closing~~ keeping drainage channels in famine areas where we ~~are doing~~ have no suitable vegetation to stabilise the channels ~~will be extremely difficult~~.

6 I hope to have a hurried one-day visit to Bijapur on January 3rd which may give me some idea as to whether bunding is beneficial or not under conditions of the present year.

7 I am afraid that the sooner the present Collector of Bijapur is moved somewhere else the better.

rather than benefiting the district.

17 12 45

HE(G.S)

17/12/45

Seen. I shall be glad to discuss with A(F) after he has visited Bijapur.

Has compensation been sought by villagers for damage to crops in the area (Canal breached and if so what has been done?

A

20/12/45

Answer to this query may be put up to A(F) before he goes to Bijapur. Put these papers in the file.

21/12

21/12

R.C.D.

Resubmitted.

2. So far no petitions in the matter have been received from the villagers by Govt. But before the papers are submitted to A(F) this may be got confirmed by reference to the L.I.O.G. The appended telegram may issue.

Jt.Secy.

unnecessary. A(F) are v. easily learn this in the ordinary course of application having been made which have not reached Govt. 23/12

Q84
C-23870

State Telegram Express.

To
L.I.O.G.
Poona.

~~Reference~~

No.484-C Reference your confl.d.o.letter No.S 205, dated 13-12-45 to A(R). Please report whether compensation has been sought by villagers for damage to crops or land in areas badly breached.

Bomrecon

Jt.Secy.

Ref

The papers may now be submitted to A(R) as desired by the Jt Secy in his note dated 24/12/45

24/12/45

DAL
28/12

hs
A(R)

Jt 8/1/46

No. 484/2/45

Confidential.

Immediate

Reconstruction Department.

Reference your confidential correspondence reg. complaints about breeches in bunds at Mulwad etc. in Bijapur district and subsequent loss to cultivators/ Please report by 31-12-45 at the latest whether any claims for compensation for loss have been received from the cultivators concerned. The information should include ~~names~~ claims, if any, received by the Collr. of Bijapur and the L.I.O. South.

27/12/45

DAL
27/12

U.S.

L.I.O.(G)

Reminder no 484-1/2/45

The letter has just reached me - camp on 30-12-45

Reply will follow as soon as possible. Please 30-12-45.

Bijapur 6146 has received no claims in connection

with the breaches at Mulwad and has

[illegible] Bijapur [illegible]

[illegible] 6[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

30-12-45

PIo

DAL

Ro 6146

Rec'd.

May be shown to A(F) for information

2 files Nos 4 & 5 on Cmpl has been submitted from 29/12/45

to A(F)

2/1/45

DAC
2.1.45

Ber. -
A(F)

DM 3.1.

C.C.
Mark with pleasure
3/1/45

CC

Ber
Please log
to me -
3/1/45

484
C223

Confidential.

Letter.

To

The Deputy Secretary to Government,
Reconstruction Department,
Bombay.

No.S.205 of 1946. Poona, 4th January, 1946.

Reference your phone message of 27-12-45.

No complaints from the cultivators have so far been received by me regarding bad work done by the Land Improvement Staff nor any cultivator demanded compensation.

For Land Improvement Officer,
(General).

RVP.3.1.

The L I O Gn's note dated 30/12/45 on the above subject was taken thereon by (F)
No action is called for on the present communication —
Do we know the results of discussions between A(D) & HE)
7/1/46 7/1 7/1/46 So far office has no information about it.
ks. ks. 7/1

D. S/47. 1956

Land Development (South).

I visited several land development projects in Bijapur district those at Zalki (4,181 acres), Horti-Nimbal (6,473 acres) on the road between Zalki and Bijapur. The next day, I saw other projects at Torvi (3,152 acres), Honwad (4,842 acres) and Telsang (3,122 acres) on the Bijapur-Athani Road. I also visited Jumnal-Hittinali (6,411 acres) project and the Mulwad project (3,107 acres) on the Bijapur-Bagalkot road.

In all the project areas, even where the rainfall has been much below normal, the crops are in fair condition and, in many places, very good. There is no doubt whatever that the effect of bunding in improved crop condition is very clearly to be seen throughout the parts of the district which I visited and it is most noticeable how, in general, the crops on the developed areas are of better growth and have a much healthier appearance than those on adjoining unbunded lands. It is only on the low "bottom" areas in unbunded land that the rabi jowar and wheat crops show good growth whereas even on high lands which have been bunded the growth of crops is comparatively good considering the nature of the season.

In some project areas, e.g. at Mulwad, Torvi and Honwad, there appears to be an increase in wheat cultivation on the bunded areas and it would be interesting to have details for several years past to ascertain to what extent wheat cultivation has increased on these lands since bunding was done. If there is an appreciable increase of wheat growing on bunded lands, that is strong evidence of the effect of such work in increasing soil moisture and of the belief of the cultivators in this effect of land development by contour bunding.

The project areas at Mulwad and Torvi which were breached last year by excessive rainfall - and badly aligned bunds have now been almost entirely repaired and full repairs will be completed as soon as the crops are harvested on the small areas which still remain to be done.

As far as I can gather, the main complaint of cultivators in bunded areas is now solely in connection with the windings of the contour bunds which, in some places, are so acute as to hinder tillage operations. As the land development supervisory staff in the field becomes more fully trained and experienced, it will, I think, be possible to improve this aspect of the work by giving more discretion to the senior field officers to cut out excessive sinuosities in bund construction by shorter and stronger bunds across depressions, ridges, etc. At the present time, however, there is no doubt that it is wise to lay down rigid rules regarding the bunds being on strict contours as our worst breaches have resulted from deviations from this rule by careless or inexperienced field workers.

4&6, +798/54 24/04 C

Keep with the papers etc. of Bunding in Bijapur.

BAL 29/11

A(F) Dr Byatt M Hz

R.C.D.

R.C.D.

Two notes are put up for the information of H.M.(Agre). The first note deals with the progress of bunding since its inception in this Province. The second note indicates certain complaints against bunding in the Bijapur distt. during H.E's visit there in October 1945 and the results of the investigations into those complaints.

U.S.

Jt.Secy.

H.M.(Agre). The Dir. of I.& C.D. may be asked to send his report at an early date on the proposals of appointing a committee to investigate the whole bunding problem and the complaints in that connection.

30/4/46

Land Improvement Scheme.

~~Bunding work has been going on for many years but until recently the activities of the Agrl. Deptt. were confined to giving advice and to preparing small schemes for individual cultivators in connection with field embarkment for prevention of erosion, conservation of moisture and nalla control.~~

1940-41

GR No 1798/36 dated 9/10/40

2. The following three schemes for the development and extension of bunding and/or dry farming methods in the districts of the Province and for training of villagers etc. at an estimated cost of Rs.1,34,904 were sanctioned for the year 1940-41.

(1) Survey Scheme.

Scheme for a specialised study of large bunding projects in typical areas as a preliminary to organised construction of lesser bunding works.

(2) North Bijapur Dry Farming Scheme.

Scheme for the extension of dry farming methods, including bunding in Bijapur district.

(3) Expenditure in connection with Rural Dev.

Scheme for bunding operations including training of Villagers in bunding classes.

Later on the Dir. of Agre. amalgamated the above three schemes and prepared a combined scheme for bunding and Dry Farming Survey and Development in order to extend largely the scope of these works. The cost of the scheme was estimated at Rs.36,0491 spread over a period of 3½ years. This scheme consisted of three sections as under :-

(a) Preliminary and Advisory Section.

One survey party consisting of a surveyor a sub-overseer and two khalasis to be appointed in each of the districts of Bijapur, Dharwar, Belgaum, Sholapur,

Ahmednagar.....

Ahmednagar, Poona, Satara and the Panch Mahals to take all the preliminary steps for carrying out minor bunding projects, i.e. the preparation of plans and estimates, technical advice and assistance etc. The actual work to be carried out under the guidance of these survey parties by the cultivators themselves..

(b) Survey Section.

For carrying out concentrated work in the preparation of complete schemes and estimates for bunding and dry farming projects of a major nature on selected village areas in the districts of Bijapur and Deccan.

(c) Development and Extension Section.

For supervision and guidance of the execution of plans for bunding and dry farming projects prepared by Survey Section.

The combined scheme also made provision for :.

(1) grant of subsidy to cultivators.

(2) training of cultivator students and

(3) supervision of the work under the combined scheme.

At this time Sir Cusrow Wadia offered a donation of Rs.7 lacs towards the formation of Trust Fund, the interest of which was to help by subsidy the carrying out of large scale soil improvement and soil conservation works. Govt. agreed to take part in this trust work and to subscribe annually a sum equal to the interest accruing from the donation. The funds were allocated to various projects on which work was planned on the understanding that the grant will be sufficient to meet staff charges, tools and incidentals and a sum upto Rs.5 per acre to bear part of bund construction and also of waste weirs which were then considered essential. The schemes taken up under the Sir C.W.T.Fund although considerably larger than the original small unit plans were still on a village or part village scale and did not normally cover a complete catchment. In all 40

schemes....

schemes covering 42000 acres were started of which 24 schemes covering about 26000 acres ~~were~~ have been completed.

1942-43

3. In the year 1942-43 famine was declared in Bijapur district. Scarcity was declared in part of Sholapur Dist. The mansoon of June-July had proved inadequate and insufficient and the late monsoon rains of Septr.-Oct. ~~upon~~ which the distt. mainly relies for crop production of rabi had failed completely. Work had to be found for the famine stricken people who flocked to relief centres for employment and food. It was against the back-ground of general distress and want that Govt. sanctioned a large scale experiment in contour bunding in the distts. of Bijapur and Sholapur. ~~The Land Dev.Sec. of the Agri. Deptt. was strengthened by the estbt. of a charge known as "Scarcity Areas"~~. The Agrl. Deptt. prepared plans for large scale contour bunding on an experimental basis mainly in Bijapur distt., where large number of famine ~~labourers~~ labourers were available, and in which district, the results of such experimental work, if successful, would be of the most immediate and paramount importance. The experimental nature of the scheme consisted of large scale investigations into technical aspects of contour bunding and the most economical method of construction. The progress made under the combined schemes for bunding and dry farming survey and dev. was also examined in detail with the ~~view~~ object of determining the modifications or changes necy. to ensure more rapid and effective work. As a result of the examination the three sections under the original scheme were abolished and the scheme was treated as a unit without such internal subdivisions into sections. This change, apart from its administrative convenience was necy. to facilitate and expedite the work to be done - (i) in the furtherance of "Village Development Project" to be subsidised by

grants from Sir C.W.T.Fund and (ii) the disposal of large lāgai applications for land imp. projects in the distts. It was also considered unnecessary to make any provision in the scheme for grant of subsidy to cultivators as such subsidies were now-restricted to approved Village Dev. Projects and were provided by grants from the C.W.T. Fund.

4. Large scale Bunding 1943 - Bijapur Experiments. 1943-44

Work on the Sir Cusrow Wadia Trust schemes provided valuable experience for the staff in construction work. They were at the same time of the greatest value in popularising bunding on a large scale in the areas where any of the schemes were undertaken. The large scale bunding works commenced in April 1943 and the scale on which they were undertaken was conditioned largely by the famine and scarcity conditions prevailing in Bijapur and parts of the adjoining districts in that year.

Upto 15th Oct. 1943 this work was completed over a total area of 80,000 acres divided among 28 large scale bunding 'projects' in Bijapur distt. alone. The total projected area mentioned above included 15,000 acres of forest and waste lands which were contour trenched and reafforestation work carried on. There with suitable types of tree growth. An area of about 2000 acres was planted with young seedling trees. The member of famine labourers employed on the works was 4600 in May 1943. This number increased to its maximum in Aug. 1943 when 40,000 labourers were engaged on the construction of contour bunds. The labour strength declined to 33000 as a result of the very favourable rains in Septr.-Oct. 1943, which resulted in the number of labourers returning to the cultivation of their own lands on the return of better conditions.

Similar large scale experimental work was undertaken in Sholapur and other districts also.

The bunds constructed were of different size, varying from a 15 ft. consolidated cross section in black soil down to 9 ft. section in hard murun.

Very good progress was made particularly in Bijapur-Dharwar where 1,04,967 acres were treated in the year April 1943 - March 1944, 8843 acres were finished in Sholapur giving a total of Rs. 1,13,810 acres. As there were famine or scarcity works the whole cost was met by Govt. As a result of success achieved under the experimental work mentioned above the Land Imp. Section was reorganised fully and the staff expanded to enable it to extend its useful activities to other areas of the Province.

1944-45.

5. Large scale Bunding 1944-45.

From 1st April 1944 the Land Imp. Section was reorganised and two sections of land Imp. were formed - South Covering Bijapur, Belgaum and Dharwar and North Covering Sholapur, Satara, Poona and Ahmednagar. The scheme was designed for a period of 5 years the first year rising gradually to a total of 38 lakhs by the end of the 5th year. Works being now on permanent and not on famine basis, Govt. announced that the cultivators would be required to pay a fair share of the cost of these improvements. The cost for the year including establishment was estimated at Rs.12 per acre. Out of this sum the cultivator was to pay Rs.9 in 12 equal interest free instalments the first not falling due till 2 years after completion of the work. ~~The above cost was exclusively of the cost of Dry Farming operations.~~ The cost of Dry Farming was estimated at Rs.3 per acre and was borne entirely by Govt. Govt's share of the total cost of Land Imp. including the loss of interest was about 50%.

Upto now the experimental large scale bunding work was undertaken as a famine relief measure and

the.....

entire cost of it was borne by Govt. The change in the condition from free to part-paid during as stated above following on a good rabi crop made the progress ~~at the start~~ slow. Sholapur and Satara soon began to show results but Poona and Nagar fell badly behind. The problems there was deficiency of labour as these areas were largely drained by recruitment and by the enormous demand for the army for labour.

Apart from this the progress every where was satisfactory until the late rains. These were good and caused an immediate fall off in labour strength. The favourable seasonal conditions and a good harvest maintained these adverse labour conditions, and progres during the second half of the year was difficult. The programme of output for this year was 5 lacs acres but due to the conditions mentioned above work in respect of an area of about 2 lakhs acres could be completed during the year.

6 Experimental Land Development Projects in Ratnagiri district - Investigation, on an experimental scale, into the problems of soil and water conservation in areas of high rainfall was undertaken, for the first time in Khed taluka of Ratnagiri district. The major lines of experimentation consisted of (1) contour trenching of upper hill slopes in order to check the downward flow of rain water and thus to enable it to percolate more readily and slowly through the soil and sub-soil - it was anticipated that the result of such work would be to improve the water holding capacity of the hill-sides and thus to enable rice crops to be grown over larger areas in replacement of inferior millets which are the main crops on these lands at present; (2) contour trenching of lands suitable for fruit tree cultivation, e.g., mangoes, cashew nut, etc; (3) gully plugging of hill-side ravines and

nullahs....

nullahs to accelerate silt deposition and thus increase the areas of lower fields suitable for rice cultivation, etc.; and (4) experimental treatment of hard laterite rock areas to accelerate the gradual disintegration of the rocky surface under flooding, followed by suitable cropping, manuring, etc. This work was started in the middle of May, 1944, at selected sites at Sukivili, Awashi-Asgani, Sawarda, Hatkhamba and Marjoli villages in Ratnagiri distt. Much difficulty was experienced in obtaining labour at reasonable rates and, by the end of June 1944, an area of only about 300 acres was completed.

7 A subsidy not exceeding 15 lakhs to meet half the irrecovable loss on the scheme was sanctioned by the Govt. of India. An amount of about 8½ lakhs was utilised from this subsidy during the year.

1945-46.

6. A provision of Rs.74,55,200 was made for the scheme ~~during this year~~ for the year 1945-46. Report regarding the actual output has not yet been received from the Director but as labour conditions prevailing in the previous year continue to exist in more or less in the same degree during this year, it is expected that the output during the year would be the same as that of the last year viz. about 2 lakhs acres.

The Govt. of India have agreed to subsidise the scheme during the year to the extent of Rs.14,83,860.

Khar land Reclamation Schemes

10 Efforts are being made to reclaim cultivable lands which have gone out of cultivation on account of inroads of salt water owing to ~~trench~~ breach of bunds by repairing them and sanction has been accorded to the preparation of schemes for the reclamation of khar lands in -

SRA Meeting 8 11/8/44

SRA No 10 dt 23/2/45

(1) Chari group of villages in Alibag taluka, Kolaba District.

(2) Narwel and Benavala villages, taluka Pen, district Kolaba.

(3) Dahanu and Bhiwandi talukas of the Thana distt.

11 The Land Imp. Deptt. has been established as a permanent Deptt. and 50% of the existing staff has been made permanent.

12. A provision of Rs.77,59,000 has been made for the scheme for the year 1946-47. 1946-47.

13. General. - Quality and durability of work.

Bunds eracted during 1943 and upto the rabi season of 1944 stood up to their work on the whole very well and that except for large scale breeching due to exceptionally heavy rain fall, involving about 3500 acres in all, at Torvi, Mulwad and Badgundi in Bijapur distt. the breaches which occured here and there were more in the nature of collapes rather than forcible breaches. No repetition of such serious damage has taken place since then.

14 Benefits that have accrued.

(i) check on erosion and (ii) Improved crop returns.

The works have resulted in conservation of soil which would otherwise have been washed away into sea. They have also resulted in much better outturn of crops which can still further be enhanced by the employment of Dry Farming methods. The appended statements give preliminary figures of yields of kharif and rabi crops under experimental plots in bunded and non-bunded areas during the year 1944-45.

15 Training of staff.

A school for the training of Bunding Overseers was opened in Bijapur in Aug. 1943. This Training Centre has now been expanded so as to enable 100 students being trained at one time. In order to obtain the fullest advantage of the soil and water conservation resulting from contour bunding under large scale bunding projects, it is necy. that such work should be supplemented by the wholesale introduction of improved methods of

scientific dry farming. The need for a xxxxxx Centre to train spl. "dry farming staff" for work among the cultivators was urgent and a full fledge Dry Farming Training Centre has now been established at Sholapur, at an estimated cost of Rs.605,980 spread over a period of 5 years. The Centre is designed to train 25 Dry Farming Asstts. and 80 kamgars in Dry Farming Methods annually. These Training Centres are being utilised now for training released ex-servicemen.

16 Sir C.W.Trust Fund.

It has since been decided that all existing schemes which are financed by the Trust Fund should be wound up as soon as possible. The new schemes approved by the Trust Fund and the Govt. will be taken up under the provisions of the L.I.S.Act and the cost will be recovered from the landowners concerned in instalments as is done in the case of schemes sanctioned by Govt. The subsidies sanctioned by Trust Fund in the case of new schemes will be utilised for any of the purposes mentioned below -

(a) to provide amenities not covered by land improvement work which may be permissible under the Trust Deed;

(b) reduce the contribution payable by land owners under the Act in the case of poor villages or villages with a high percentage of returned soldiers or villages in which the cost of land improvement is likely to be high owing to the environment, e.g. the first three or four instalments due from land owners may be paid out of the Trust Funds;

(c) as grants for repairs and maintenance of land improvement works in exceptional cases, and

(d) as the whole or partial cost of experimental or pioneer work in land improvement schemes approved by the Governing Body.

17. Land Imp. Schemes Act.-

All the work undertaken so far is being brought under the purview of the Land Improvement Schemes Act and the work in connection with the preparation of necy alterations and additions in 'record of rights' and village maps is in progress.

18. Land Improvement Research Section, Sholapur.

Sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.2,75,360 spread over a period of 5 years. The Research Section will deal with soil and engineering problems resulting from the rapid expansion of the Land Improvement Work.

19. Contour Strip Cropping Scheme.

Sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.1,63,894 spread over a period of 5 years, Under the scheme research work on contour strip cropping ~~work~~ in areas under land imp. will be carried out.

20. A statement showing the estimated and actual cost of the scheme for the years from 1942-43 to 1946-47 is appended.

tlk

11-4

Land Improvement Scheme.

Cost.	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Estimated.	1,28,900	1,58,600	70,00,000	74,55,200	77,59,000
Actuals.	1,01,347	9,55,915	37,72,574	figure not available.	
Govt. of India subsidy.			15 lakhs (about 8½ lakhs ultimate) utilised	Rs.14,83,860	

Note re: investigation into complaints against bunding system from certain agriculturists of Bijapur.

During his visit in October last to Bijapur, H.E. the Governor of Bombay was presented by certain agriculturists of Bijapur with a memorial containing certain complaints against the bunding system. The main burden of the complaint was that while there was no objection to bunding in itself, its application on present lines to the distt. was faulty and that there were constant breaches in the bunds in the black cotton soil. It was also suggested that there should be less zig-zags in bunds in the murum areas. Protests were also made about damages to crops.

Under H.E.'s instructions Sir Godfrey Collins, Adviser(Revenue), undertook a special tour of the areas in question and interviewed a deputation of the memorialists. He asked them to go ahead and select specimens of the wholesale breaches complained of and visited the areas so selected. He also contacted Mr.Siddhanti & Sardar Dewan Bahadur Deshmukh, two prominent leaders of the distt. As a result of these detailed investigations, Sir Collins arrived at the following conclusions:-

(a) There was some local feeling that bunding is yet fully established on right lines, but this ld be set right without difficulty.

(b) Further experiments (involving some more ding in small areas) in regard to bunding in black l would be necessary, in the light of Sir William kins' experience in U.S.A. or Dr.Shuhart's ommendations.

(c) In murum soils there was a possibility of minating some of the sharper bends without arting from the principles of contour bunding.

(d) As regards damages to crops, a more exact e-table for bunding works would eliminate bunding ing the cultivating season.

All these suggestions are being followed up by the L.I.Deptt. as will be seen from Sir Jenkins d.o.letter of 12th Novr.1945. A subsequent note by Sir Jenkins, written after his tour of the Bijapur distt., also shows that the main complaint of cultivators in bunded areas now is about the windings (bends) of contour bunds at some places. This complaint can be removed later when the supervising staff becomes more fully trained and experienced. For the present, Sir Jenkins considers it necy.to adhere to strict contours to avoid breaches.

As regards the suggestions made in Mr.Symington's d.o.letter, Sir Godfrey Collins came to the conclusion that there was no necessity to grant any compensation(as repairs were done at Govt.cost) and that the headquarters of the L.I.O.(South) should remain at Bijapur.

18/W

To Govt

Letter

The Director of Land Improvement

No. 484-C. B. C., 2nd May 1946.

Please submit at an early date through the Agricultural Commissioner your reports on the the proposals regarding the appointment of a Committee to investigate the whole bunding problem and the complaints made in that connection.

By order of the Governor of Bombay,

dt. 2/5/46

Asst Secretary to Govt.

ISSUED

dt. 3/5

1-5-46

Copy forwarded to the Agricultural Commissioner

ISSUED

dt. 3/5

D.O.No.2154/45-B(Fam).
Revenue Department,
Secretariat,
Bombay, 27th May 1946.

I am to forward copies of Almoula's letter, No.F.A.M.23, dated 9th May 1946, with its accompaniments and to state that the Land Improvement Officer, S.C.'s attitude in opening or not opening scarcity works in the Bijapur district in accordance with Almoula's orders is clearly wrong especially because he has not even x shown the courtesy to explain to Almoula, the circumstances in which his orders on the subject, which were passed after considering the demands made by local public opinion could not be complied with. It is clear from sections 14, 19(h), 33(b), 34, 38, 44 and 56 (particularly sections 38 and 56) of the Famine Relief Code that the Collector is definitely the controlling officer for scarcity operations in his district. Government also considers that without the Collector's co-ordinating authority and general direction in the matter, scarcity measures must result in wasted effort, etc.

2. Please, therefore, draw the Land Improvement Officer's attention to the sections of the Code mentioned above, and direct him to (i) contact Almoula at once; (ii) explain to him personally the circumstances in which the scarcity works required by him could not be opened up to now; (iii) do everything possible to open them without further delay; (iv) close the works which are not required as scarcity works after personal discussion; (v) and also furnish all information required by Almoula in respect of the works, scarcity arrangements made on them, persons employed on them, amount and method of paying wages on them, etc.

3. I am also to request you to draw the Land Improvement Officer's attention to sections 19(j), 25, 76, 205 and 209(a) and (d) of the Code and to ask him to consult Almoula on matters connected with medical arrangements on scarcity works.

Yours

(M. J. DESAI),

Accompaniments:- Copies of letter and accompaniments.

To

Sir William Jenkins, C.I.E., I.A.S.,
Agricultural Commissioner, Poona.

Confidential.

RECO... S-484 BOMBAY 1946 Serial No. C 1502

(2)

Confidential.

No.2154/45-B(Fam).
Revenue Department.
Bombay Castle, 27th May 1946.

Copies forwarded for information and guidance to -

the Commissioner, S.D.,
the Collector of Bijapur,
the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay (with reference to his memorandum, no.S.137-7645-B, dated 15th and 17th April 1946),
the Director of Public Health,
the General Department,
the Reconstruction Department.

2. The Surgeon General and the Director of Public Health are requested to see that the provisions of sections 19(j), 25, 76, 205 and 209(a) and (d), Famine Relief Code, are not lost sight of in dealing with medical arrangements on scarcity works.

By order of the Governor of Bombay,

D. N. Nanavaty

For Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Revenue Department.

Sa.27

Copy of letter from the Collector of Bijapur, No.F.A.M.23, dated 9th May 1946.

Subject:- Scarcity works.

Attention is invited to section 56 of the Famine Relief Code and Government orders in Revenue Department endorsement, No.1243/45-B(Fam), dated 30th January 1946, paragraph (2) regarding the fixing of priority among scarcity works and other particulars under section 56. Accordingly, the selection had been made by me in February 1946 and necessary directions issued to start the works by a particular date under this office No.F.A.M.23, dated 13th February 1946 (copy attached). All the agencies except the Land Improvement Department have carried out the directions but 29 works have not been so far started by the Land Improvement Department. On the other hand 6 works not selected are being executed. I make this statement with regard to the 6 works on the strength of the daily reports under section 72 of the Famine Relief Code received by me.

2. I have received no reports so far whatsoever regarding the circumstances under which the 29 works mentioned above could not be started. I have expressly written a letter (copy enclosed) that the works should be started but unfortunately there is no reply. Complaints keep on coming to me from non-official social workers & and the members of the District Famine Relief Committee about the necessity of opening some works on that side, supply of labour and the inadequacy of facilities and amenities on some works such as are provided by the Public Works Department. Without any information except the cards of attendance which receive I am neither

neither in a position to give a satisfactory reply nor to take immediate action to open other works and provide amenities.

3. According to the provisions of the Famine Relief Code, the general responsibility for scarcity or famine relief works is fixed on the Collector as will be seen from the spirit underlying sections 38, 33(b) and 56. Naturally, therefore, the members of the public come to me. You will, thus, realise the awkward situation in which I am placed. I am not aware of any orders according special treatment to these scarcity works by way of exemption from the provisions of the Famine Relief Code or relaxation thereof except in the case of maximum wages. The recent orders regarding the appointment of medical officers passed by the Surgeon General (copies attached) seem to be not in conformity with the provisions of sections 209 and 210. So far as I can see in the absence of any other special orders, these works will be in the same category as the works opened by the Public Works Department or any other local body as far as the question of direction or general supervision of the Collector and inspection by other officers (section 77) goes. I would, therefore, request you to clarify the position regarding the powers of supervision, direction and inspection, by precisely defining them in regard to the scarcity works started by the Agricultural Department.

Copy of letter from the Collector of Bijapur, No. F.A.M. 25, dated 15th April 1946, to the Land Improvement Officer, Executive Engineer and President, District Local Board, Bijapur.

The works shown in the accompanying list selected by me under section 56, Famine Relief Code for being taken up as scarcity works have not yet been started. You are therefore requested to start the selected works immediately and also direct the officers-in-charge of the works to submit daily and weekly returns to his office without fail. There is a cry for labour in the area covered by these works.

The new works selected as scarcity works in the meeting held on 8th April 1946, and communicated to them under this office even No., dated 11th April 1946, should also please be started on the fixed dates to meet the urgent demand for labour in these areas.

Action should please be reported to this office.

Bunding Works.

Bagalkot taluka.	1. Mallapur.
Badami taluka.	1. Lakkaskop. 2. Anval. 3. Nandikeshwar. 4. Belur. 5. Muttalgeri.
Hungund taluka.	1. Ganjihal.
Muddebihal taluka.	1. Hullur, 2. Banoshi. 3. Dhavalgi. 4. Shirol.

Bijapur

Bunding works (contd.).

Bijapur taluka. 1. Mamadapur. 2. Bellubbi. 3. Atalatti. 4. Jainapur. 5. Makhanapur. 6. Shegunshi. 7. Hokkundi. 8. Yekkundi.

Bilgi Petha. 1. Korti. 2. Budni. 3. Sunag. 4. Anagwadi. 5. Katarki. 6. Galgali. 7. Kovalli. 8. Horkal. 9. Rabkavi. 10. Shirguppi. 11. Analzeri.

Copy of memorandum from the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay, No.S.137-7645/B, dated 15th April 1946, to the Civil Surgeon, Satara, copy endorsed to the Collector of Bijapur.

Subject:- Scarcity works.
Provision of lady doctors for women labourers on ---.

Mr.G.N.Kulkarni, S.M.S., should be relieved of his duties at once and directed to proceed to Bijapur so as to reach there within four days of his relief at Satara and report to the Land Improvement Officer, Bijapur, for scarcity duty.

This transfer involves a change of headquarters.

Reconstruction department

SA.27

Submitted for information

Pl. keep with the file regarding defects in Bijapur Bunding & the amounts passed against the Abstracts by the L.I.O.

Jnc. 29/5/46

U.S. 30-5-46

D.S.

Cc. Pl. file in the relevant file